



Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010, 8:30 a.m. at the Cove Deli

Meeting began with breakfast and a fond farewell to Adina, who is retiring and will no longer be participating in JSEC. Thank you, Adina, for all of your hard work over the years. You will be missed!

In Attendance: Theresa Jones from St. Luke Community Healthcare; Donna Mitchell and Shelly Fyant from Kicking Horse Job Corps; Debbie Krantz, Todd Erickson, and Whitney Goss from Mission Valley One Stop Workforce Center; Jessie Miller from First Citizens Bank, Marilyn Becker from Office Of Public Assistance, Karen Dellwo from First Interstate Bank, Adina Fox previously from SAFE Harbour, and Paula Weaver from DRS Technologies.

Speaker Topic: *Working meeting, no speaker today.*

Treasurer's Report: Adina. The only bill that has been paid since the last report was for the career fair booklets, which came to \$1,053. This cost has gone up considerably in the past few years. Deposits that have been made since the last report total \$700, mostly from fund raising to defray costs of the Career Fair booklet. Current balance in the account is \$6,079.83.

Old Business:

Last meetings minutes were reviewed and approved. Motion by Karen, seconded by Shelly. Adina would like a copy of the bylaws for the treasurer folder. Whitney will forward those along.

New Business:

Career Fair Update: Todd: The Career Fair was very successful this year. Attendance was great (600-700 participants). Workshops were also well attended. This is a growing venue for employers to participate in. Feedback: Employers would like to see students dress professionally and bring resumes. Not as many adults attended. The committee would like to see a summary of the feedback and attendance numbers for next month's meeting. Whitney will compile this information.

Scholarship Committee Update: Marilyn, Jessie, and Shelly: Only 5 applications were turned in this year, which is way below normal. 4 applications were from Charlo, 1 was

from Arlee. JSEC brainstormed ideas for generating interest. We plan to send out application packets earlier next year, as well as email reminders to the school counselors as the deadlines draw near. We are also thinking of hand delivering the packets next year and meeting with each counselor individually. Marketing at Career Fair might also be a good idea. The Scholarship Committee will meet and inform JSEC of their decision for a recipient.

Workshop Committee Update: Todd, Jessie, Heather. The committee is pursuing this more aggressively, as it is getting close to spring time, when we could like to hold the workshop. After reviewing the options, the committee has decided to pursue a workshop with Wendy Sampson. Wendy is willing to give discount if we can partner with Libby JSEC, even more if we can bring in Flathead JSEC. Todd's working on coordinating this. The committee is looking at a presentation called the Effectiveness shift, which concentrates on effective leadership. Wendy's proposal is \$1,000 + expenses. Debbie and Theresa have been to Wendy's workshops before and had positive reviews, saying that she is a wonderful speaker and we will definitely get our money's worth. ** Right now the plan is that the workshop will take place sometime during the week of 5/14/10. Will be sure to let everyone know when we have more details.**

Incumbent Worker Training Program Update: Todd, Debbie. An employer must have no more than 50 employees state wide, and 20 or fewer per location to qualify for this program. This is a great opportunity for small employers to access training funds of up to \$2000 per employee, per fiscal year. Some matching funds by employers are required. Match may be met in a variety of ways. One requirement is a wage increase once training is completed. Official documents/applications are not available yet, but will be out soon. \$500,000 will need to be spent by 6/30/10. Next year, another \$500,000 will be available, but what isn't used this year, will not be available this year. With ample funding available at this time, it is an opportune point in time for approval of funding for participation. The funds are available for short term training, certifications, etc. NOT training required to qualify for the job. Businesses will need to participate in a BEAR interview as a gateway service for eligibility for this program. Todd can provide this service. Think of small businesses that might benefit/qualify, as it is a huge opportunity. Contact Todd or Debbie with suggestions. Theresa asked about advertising and how the word is getting out to businesses. There will likely be a news release, but Debbie will look into it.

New Treasurer Needed: With Adina retiring, we are in need of a new Treasurer. Jessie volunteered. Motioned by Karen, seconded by Marilyn, and the committee voted unanimously to confirm it. Thank you Jessie!

Region Representative for JSEC: Our region does not currently have a representative. Karen served in this position most recently and understands that it is difficult to get from Hamilton to Libby. MSEC is looking at having two reps for our region, so one person isn't responsible for the whole area. The rep would be responsible to attend a meeting once a year and work as a liaison between MSEC and JSEC. Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer cannot be a region rep. Would prefer them to be a JSEC member. Job

description/responsibilities are being put together. Missoula/Kalispell may have someone available also. Debbie will check with Pat Hulla to what discussions are occurring on this topic throughout the region. Travel costs are not reimbursed at this time. This is another reason why it may be beneficial to have two reps.

New Brochures: Updated brochures with new contact information were passed out at the meeting so that we can be networking and recruiting new members! Karen asked about our quota and how many members JSEC needs/wants. Per the bylaws, 5 or more members are required at meetings in order to conduct business. However, we would obviously like to have more attending the meetings. Everyone brainstormed ideas of a few local businesses to reach out to and various outreach ideas, i.e. visit the business and explain JSEC. A membership drive might also be beneficial.

Innovation in Business Clinic: Todd: The conference will take place in Billings this May. Job Service can sponsor one person so Theresa will be going. We can share rides if anyone else is interested in going. Job Service will send information out to everyone this afternoon.

Manager's Report: Debbie. Incumbent Worker Training is a big focus right now. Job Service would like to see everyone get that information out to local businesses. Hiring: Amber Zygutis has been hired for the permanent Employment Specialist position. She had been working the front desk, so that position will now need to be refilled. This is a temporary position. Debbie will be participating in budget meetings next month and may know more about the staffing situation for the following year at that time. All state agencies are trying to cut costs this year. Debbie also provided the latest unemployment stats as of January. Lake County is at 11.3% unemployment. Lincoln is ranked highest at 17.8%. At this time last year, Lake County had 9.9% unemployment, so we are quite a bit higher. Flathead County was at 11.3% unemployment at this time last year. They are now at 13.2%. Our area relied on those openings in the past as well, so we are feeling the effects of their high unemployment.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 27th, 8:30 am at the Cove Deli.